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10/648,633

08/27/2003

Aiko Matsuda

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EXAMINER

QIN, YIXING

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2625

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 6/27/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The first argument is that the 2in1 mode is not analogous to a writing space mode as claimed. However, the writing space mode appears simply to be printing some image or information on one half of a page and leaving space for writing notes on the other half of the page. This is pretty much the same reason Nakajima discloses in column 1, lines 53-63 – that an agenda is printed on one half of the page, and the other blank half is used for note taking.

The arguments also state that the Nakajima reference does not disclose/suggest that there is a document direction judgment section. However, as stated, column 9, lines 1-5 shows that the operator is able to choose a direction for the paper, such as lateral or longitudinal. Also see Fig. 7 and column 11, lines 3-28 that there are various CPUs for performing functions of the image processing system. Thus, at least CPU1 (or CPU and CPU5 since CPU5's ram stores CPU1's information) can be said to be one to help judge direction because they deal with the user inputs.

Regarding the top-side judging section, the top side of the document is dependent on which document is fed first into the feeder. As column 8, lines 51-65 discloses, in the 2in1 mode, one of ordinary skill would realize that the first scanned document would be top side document in the 2in1 print (i.e. it'll be on the "left" or top side of the final 2in1 document). Column 19, 45 – column 20, line 9 discloses that the

order of the image reading from the image memory. By changing the order of reading, the top side document effectively changes. This indicates that the 2in1 document may be printed with the two halves of the final document in different order, which would be analogous to judging which image is to be on the "top side".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yixing Qin whose telephone number is (571)272-7381. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/David K Moore/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625